

# GRACE CHURCH VISITOR

A MONTHLY DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF THE GRACE REFORMED CHURCH AND SUNDAY SCHOOL.

VOLUME IV.

FORT WAYNE, IND., MAY, 1892.

NUMBER 5.

## NINTH ANNIVERSARY.

### *Whit Sunday, June 5th.*

Anniversary sermon by the pastor in the morning at 10:30. Subject, "Building a Spiritual Edifice."

An inspiring service in the evening at 7:30, by the people, and for the people. Subject, "Building our Church Edifice." Brief address by the pastor and five minutes talks by the members.

Anniversary offerings will be received at the morning and evening services. The members and friends of the church will be supplied with special envelopes for their offerings upon this occasion.

Baptism and reception of new members at the morning service.

Every member of Grace Church is expected at these services. Come and bring your friends with you.

### ANNUAL MEETINGS OF ST. JOSEPH CLASSIS.

The Sunday School Convention, the Annual Meeting of Classis, and the Woman's Classical Missionary Society, were held at Millersburg, Ind., during the week, May 10, 11, 12 and 13. While the weather was most unfavorable, these meetings were after all pleasant and profitable. The people of Millersburg did their best in entertaining the delegates, and we feel confident that every person was pleased with the hospitality that was shown them.

#### THE SUNDAY SCHOOL CONVENTION.

The sessions of the Sunday School Convention opened on Thursday evening, May 10. The annual address was delivered by Rev. H. S. Baily of White Pigeon, Mich. Subject, "The Formation of Character under Bible Influence." Mr. Baily is a very fluent speaker, and his thoughts on this topic were very good. His address had been prepared with much care, and it was well received by the audience.

After the evening's devotional services and the address, the convention was formally organized. Delegates were enrolled and the following officers elected. President, Rev. Israel Rothenberger; Secretary, D. W.

Souder; Treasurer, Rev. A. K. Zartman.

Wednesday morning sessions were well attended, and the addresses were instructive and elicited some animated discussions.

Rev. S. Shaw, of Marmont, Ind., delivered the first address in the morning, speaking on the topic, "How shall we more deeply interest the Church in the Sunday School?" This address was spirited, and indicated that the speaker had given the subject careful attention. If the church more fully understood the work of the Sunday School and was more deeply impressed with the thought of its relation to Church as its nursery, church members would be more willing to support the Sunday school, both with their means and their presence.

Elder Benj. Ashbaucher of Bluffton, Ind., delivered the second address in the morning. Subject: "How increase our Adult Classes?" Mr. Ashbaucher said, in their Sabbath school at Bluffton they had no difficulty in securing the attendance of the church members at the sessions of the Sunday school. By his remarks, the convention was made to feel that the right speaker had been assigned the right topic. In the Bluffton Sunday school they have a weekly teachers' meeting. At these meetings, not only the lessons are studied, but plans and methods for work are devised. Systematic and combined efforts are made by the teachers and children to secure the attendance of parents and young people at the Sunday-school. We feel certain that systematic work is the successful plan for work in any department of church activity. Mr. Ashbaucher's suggestions were excellent, and we feel confident that as a superintendent he is a host in himself, and a young man who has not only a wish to be aggressive, but who gives much of his time, and much thought to his work. To be a successful superintendent requires constant activity and much artful and inventive genius.

The third address on Wednesday forenoon was delivered by Rev. F. Ware, of Three Rivers, Mich. Topic,

"Good Order in the Sunday-school and Who Is Responsible for It?" The Sunday-school must have order. By the united effort of officers and teacher's, much can be done to have good order in the school. Sometimes it becomes necessary to resort to extreme measures, either on the part of the teachers, or the Superintendent to govern certain pupils. Parents are in a great measure responsible for the order of the school.

Rev. A. B. Stoner of Fulton, Mich., delivered the first address in the afternoon. "The Possibilities of the Sunday School as Related to Conversion and Spiritual Life." The speaker assured the convention that in the hands of God the Sunday-school is one of the mighty agencies, which is bringing about the conversion of the world unto the Lord. It lies within the province and possibility of the Sunday-school to lead the child to Christ, and carefully nurture its spiritual life.

The remaining discussions of the afternoon were upon the subject, "Our Text Book," 1 "How Study It?" by Rev. Israel Rothenberger; 2 "Who May Teach It?" by Anthony Deahl, Esq., Goshen, Ind.; 3 "How Teach It?" by Elder D. W. Souder, Fort Wayne, Ind. The thoughts advanced upon these topics were all very good. The Text Book for the Sunday-school is the Word of God. The whole school should study it. Study it prayerfully, systematically, and constantly.

The addresses of Mr. Deahl and Elder Souder were both well prepared and the thoughts advanced were instructive.

One of the most gratifying features of the convention consisted in the fact, that all the speakers on the program were present, and had made careful preparation upon their respective topics. In many particulars this was one of the most instructive conventions that we have attended for many years. We feel confident that the delegates have all returned to their homes greatly profited by what they heard, and better prepared for their work.

The next convention will be held at Fort Wayne, beginning the day



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25 Cents per Year.

REV. A. K. ZARTMAN, A. M., - EDITOR.

Board of Managers: Rev. A. K. Zartman, F. D. Paulus, and D. W. Souder.

Entered at the postoffice at Fort Wayne, Indiana, as second-class matter. Feb. 7, 1893.

preceding the annual meeting of classis, in June '93.

## THE LADIES' MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

The sessions of the society opened on Thursday afternoon, May 12. A fair representation of delegates was in attendance, and the sessions throughout were very interesting and beneficial. The election of officers resulted as follows: President, Mrs. A. K. Zartman; vice president, Mrs. Clayton, Pulaski, Ohio; secretary, Mrs. Louisa Miller, Fort Wayne, Ind.; treasurer, Mrs. W. H. Xanders, Michigan City, Ind. The society will put forth vigorous efforts during the coming year, toward effecting organizations in the different congregations where no societies exist, and will endeavor to increase the contributions for the cause of missions, both home and foreign. The delegates elected to the Missionary Society of the General Synod, to be held in Reading, Pa., May, 1893, were Mrs. A. K. Zartman, primarius; Mrs. F. Ware, secundus. Delegates elected to the Missionary Society of the Ohio Synod, to be held at Cleveland, Ohio, in Oct., 1892, were Mrs. Louisa Miller, primarius and Mrs. F. Ware, secundus.

One of the most enjoyable features of the meeting was the devotional service of Friday morning, in which many participated. There is no hour so precious to the true Christian as the sweet hour of prayer. There is no opportunity so sacred to the active and earnest worker as that of coming to the master for a new supply of grace and strength to carry on the great work of the church in preaching the gospel to every creature.

The public exercises on Thursday evening were very largely attended. Papers were read by Mrs. H. S. Baily, White Pigeon, Mich.; and Miss Laura Mast, Bluffton, Ind. Addresses were delivered by Rev.'s H. M. Kessler and F. Ware. The music was nicely rendered by the choir of Millersburg Reformed church. An offering for foreign missions was received, amounting to some over fifteen dollars.

The next annual meeting of the

society will be held in Grace church, Fort Wayne, Ind., June, 1893.

## THE ANNUAL MEETING OF CLASSIS.

The sessions of Classis opened Wednesday evening, May 11. The opening sermon was preached by Rev. Israel Rothenberger. After the sermon the Classis was organized. The enrollment of delegates indicated that nearly all the ministers in the active work were present, and that the representation of lay delegates was almost complete. Rev. H. S. Bailey was elected President, Rev. F. Ware continues Stated Clerk, Benjamin Ashbaucher was re-elected Treasurer, and Rev. I. Rothenberger was chosen Corresponding Secretary.

Thursday forenoon reports, parochial and statistical, were read from the different charges in the Classis. These reports indicated that our churches were in a prosperous condition, and were enjoying a steady and healthy growth. The death rate among members during the past year has been very large, possibly one-half higher than during the preceding year. This is proof of the fact also that there has been much sickness among the people and that our pastors have been interrupted in their work.

Several of our charges are without pastors at present, but it is hoped that in the near future these vacant fields will be supplied. Among these vacant charges are the following: Bluffton, Goshen, Denver, St. Paul, and Neriah. Waterloo will be occupied by a regular pastor shortly, Rev. J. H. Albright having accepted a call from this field. Rev. L. B. Clayton has removed to Pulaski, Ohio, where he began his labors about the first of May. The St. Paul Church near Colen, Mich., is being supplied by Rev. Cromer, of the English Lutheran Church, residing near Not-tawa, Mich. Mr. Cromer attended the meeting of classis, and we were glad to meet him, and believe him to be a good man and an earnest servant of the Master. Some reconstructions are contemplated in the near future, in several of the charges of classis. This would make some of our fields less laborious and will enable the pastors to do more efficient work. The crying need of the church is for more men, and men of proper qualifications. "The harvest truly is plenteous but the laborers are few."

Much of the time of classis was occupied in hearing reports from the regular committees, and discussing various subjects claiming the atten-

tion of classis. Delegates were elected to the Tri-annual meeting of the General Synod, which convenes at Reading Pa., May 22, 1893. The following are the delegates: Ministers, A. K. Zartman, H. S. Baily, primari, F. Ware, and S. Shaw, secundi. Elders, Jacob Pfeiffer, D. W. Souder, primari.

Religious services were held on Thursday and Friday evenings. Thursday evening the Ladies' Missionary Society had a public service, and on Friday evening the classical communion service was held. Thursday afternoon from 4:30 to 5:30 a "Model prayer meeting" was conducted. This was in a measure a pentecostal meeting. How easy it is to have a good prayer-meeting when you have an assembly of devout and praying Christians, every person coming to the meeting with the purpose of taking part in the service, and every one coming with the expectation of receiving a blessing. We shall long remember this hour of prayer as a blessed season of refreshing and of sweet communion with God and with God's children. Our prayer is, that our churches might each week, enjoy such seasons of prayer. We often wonder whether the time will ever come when our churches will appreciate the full value of the prayer meeting and when all the members shall attend these meetings.

Classis adjourned Friday evening, after the communion service. These meetings were throughout pleasant and harmonious. There will be a special meeting of Classis in June at Fulton, Mich. The next annual meeting will be held in the Grace Reformed Church at Fort Wayne, the second Wednesday in June, 1893. It has been some seven or more years since Classis met in Grace Church. Our people will no doubt all be glad to have Classis meet with us, and all will enjoy attending these meetings.

## MARRIAGES.

At the Grace Church parlors May 5 Mr. August Weipert, of Fort Wayne, and Miss Minnie Forsythe, of Dunfee, Ind. Mr. and Mrs. Weipert will reside on Hoffman street.

At the parsonage, Saturday evening May 21, Mr. August B. Jackson and Miss Mattie F. French, both of this city. Mr. and Mrs. Jackson will reside at 256 Clinton street.

The VISITOR extends hearty congratulations and good wishes to these young people.



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## SERVICES.

Sabbath morning, - - - - - 10:30  
Sabbath evening, - - - - - 7:30  
Sunday School, - - - - - 9:30  
Y. P. S. C. E. Prayer meeting Sab. evening 6:30  
Prayer meeting Wednesday evening - 7:30  
Come and welcome to these services.

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D. W. SOUDER—Assistant Superintendent.  
CHARLES GUMPER—Secretary.  
MRS. CHARLES GUMPER—Treasurer.  
EUGENE MATHIS—Librarian.

## WOMEN'S MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

MRS. A. K. ZARTMAN—President.  
MRS. F. D. PAULUS—Vice President.  
MRS. CHARLES GUMPER—Secretary.  
MRS. M. CONET—Treasurer.

## Y. P. S. C. E.

A. K. ZARTMAN—President.  
EUGENE MATHIS—Vice President.  
NORA ROMY—Secretary.  
EUGENE MATHIS—Treasurer.

## AT MILLERSBURG AND GOSHEN, IND.

The delegates from Grace Church to the meetings of Classis at Millersburg, Ind., were the following: Elder D. W. Souder, Mrs. Louisa Miller, Mrs. A. K. Zartman, Josie Zartman and the pastor. Mrs. Miller and the pastor's family were hospitably entertained at the home of Mr. and Mrs. George Mutschler, of Millersburg. We should have been glad to visit many of the families at Millersburg, but the weather was so unfavorable, and our time so much occupied that we were denied this pleasure. We, however, managed to visit Mother Loy, who resides with her son, Thomas, two miles east of the village. Mrs. Loy has for many years been a member of the Reformed church and has always been a very consistent christian woman. Though for several years past she has not been able to attend divine service on account of infirmity and ill health. She is now in her ninety-second year. She feels that her life work is about completed and is anxiously waiting for the time of her departure from this world and when she may enter upon the life to come.

Since our pastorate with the Millersburg congregation the church has been remodeled and papered, and put on an entire new appearance. It is now a very neat and inviting audience room. We were pleased to see these changes. It is unfortunate that these people have been without a regular pastor so much of the time during the last four years. But we feel assured that when they again secure a pastor

in a short time the church will again be revived. The probabilities now are that before very long the Millersburg congregation will be disconnected from the Goshen church and will be made the center of a new charge, and have a pastor settled in its midst. This will be a decided advantage for this congregation. The people of this church should work to this end, and they should feel, as we think many of them do, that they can afford to pay fully twice as much to the support of a pastor who will live among them, and give them the best part of his time and pastoral care. The Millersburg church has a promising outlook and can do a great work if the people will work together harmoniously and take advantage of their opportunities. They are a pleasant and hospitable people, and with an active preacher will do successful work. There is abundant material in the town and surrounding community to build up a strong church.

On Saturday, May 14th, after the meeting of Classis, the pastor and family went to Goshen to spend a few days. Our visit with these people was very much enjoyed. We had our headquarters at the home of Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Platter, and then made as many visits and calls with other families of the church as time and convenience would allow. Our time was altogether too limited to make our visit complete. But we were glad to be with these people again, even though our stay among them was brief. On Sabbath morning, May 15, we held a communion service with this church, and also preached for them in the evening. These people are very anxious to secure again a regular pastor, and no time or pains will be spared to secure a man for them as early as possible. The church is in correspondence with several ministers at the present, but as yet nothing definite has been determined. Goshen is one of the most delightful cities of Northern Indiana, and is growing very rapidly. It has now a population of from 7,000 to 8,000. We hope that very soon our church in this growing and promising city may again have a regular pastor, and the work in the church may continue without interruption.

The special offerings on "Anniversary Day" should not be less than half a hundred dollars. If each member will give as the Lord has given unto them, our offerings will far exceed this amount.

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### Y. P. S. C. E. DEPARTMENT.

#### Prayer Meeting Topics.

May 31. Consecration Meeting.  
 What does God Reveal, and to Whom.  
 Dan. 2: 21, 30, 47; 1 Cor. 2: 9, 10.—  
 Eugene Mathis.

June 7. Lessons from the Fiery  
 Furnace. Dan. 3: 13-25; 1 Peter 3:  
 12, 13.—Etta Souder.

June 14. Endure Hardness. Dan.  
 6: 13-25; 1 Peter 3: 12, 13.—Katie  
 Walters.

June 21. Promise Meeting. 2  
 Peter 1: 4.—Mrs. Zartman.

June 28. Consecration Meeting.  
 Triumph of the Kingdom. Ps. 72:  
 1-19.—Lillie Walters.

#### JUNIOR SOCIETY.

Prayer meetings alternate Sabbath  
 afternoons at 2:30.

#### PRAYER MEETING TOPICS.

June 5. How to Treat Father and  
 Mother. Luke 2: 49-52.—Bessie Gill-  
 ette.

June 19. Precious Promises.  
 Matthew 11: 28-30.—Carrie Souder.

The Young Peoples prayer meeting  
 will for the remaining part of May  
 and for the month of June be held on  
 Tuesday evening of each week.

Monthly business meeting Tues-  
 day evening June 7.

Ninth anniversary of Grace Church,  
 June 5.

The next quarterly communion  
 service will likely be held the first  
 Sabbath in July.

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 versary Day?" Impossibilities only  
 will excuse you.

A HALF-DOZEN or more new faces  
 are seen in our Sunday School every  
 Sabbath morning. Let this good  
 work continue with unabated zeal.  
 Including May 29, there are yet five  
 more Sabbaths in the quarter. Some  
 persons are working hard to get the  
 Prize Bibles. Every scholar should at  
 least bring in one new scholar before  
 the quarter closes.

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References: The First National or Hamilton  
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